



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD
February 8, 2006**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Leslie Krongold, President
Ruth Belikove, Vice President arrived 6:56 p.m.
Karen Butter, Board Member
Alan Mitchell, Board Member
Mark Schoenrock, Board Member
Jane Chisaki, Acting Library Director

Absent: None

Staff: Jenna Gaber, Outgoing Recording Secretary
Marsha Merrick, Incoming Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted and adopted on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from Library Director highlighting Library Department activities for the month of February 2006. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board meeting of January 11, 2006. Approved.
- C. *Revised Library Services Report for the month of November 2005. Accepted.
- D. *Library Services Report for the month of December 2005. Accepted.
- E. *Report from Finance Department reflecting FY 2005-06 Library expenditures (by fund) through January 2006. Accepted.
- F. *Bills for ratification. Approved.

Board President Krongold asked about a tour of the new Library building for the Board. Acting Library Director Chisaki indicated that she would be setting up something with Bob Haun in the near future.

Board member Butter moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Board member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Materials Security and Inventory System. (J. Chisaki)

Acting Library Director Chisaki spoke on the progress being made to date under the direction of David Hall, Technical Services Supervisor.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Notification of Library Closure for Collection Conversion (J. Chisaki).

Acting Library Director Chisaki spoke on the notification process which is currently underway. The City Council approved the two-week closure in March, and press releases have been distributed. A list of FAQ's were also put together to advise the public on the reason for the closure and to better educate patrons on the security of the RFID process. The Board resoundingly agreed that this coverage was indeed a "job well done"!

B. Alameda Free Library Foundation (R. Belikove)

Board Member Belikove announced that she had resigned her position as liaison to the Foundation effective that evening. President Krongold asked for a member of the Board to volunteer their time for this spot and Board Member Mitchell agreed to contact the Foundation President. The Foundation is also organizing a fund raising Gala for the new Library which is scheduled for October 28.

C. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Skeen)

Friends of the Alameda Free Library President Molly Skeen spoke on the activities being planned for the Library Grand Opening scheduled on November 2. She asked if a member of the Board was interested in being the liaison for the event, and Board Member Butter willingly volunteered her time.

D. Library Building Watch (L. Krongold)

Board President Krongold indicated that she was heavily involved in working on a Master's program and her time was just not what it used to be. She made a request to have a Library staff member assist in getting out the newsletter. Acting Library Director Chisaki said she would think about who might be an appropriate designate, and asked that President Krongold send her the specifics on what is actually involved in the process.

E. Patron suggestions/comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's response.

Acting Director Chisaki read through the speak-outs, and a common theme questioned if the new Library would also have alternative music CD's, i.e., something besides classical which holds the majority in the current collection. There had been a \$10,000 donation made to the Library that specified it to be used to purchase classical music only, which is the reason the greater part of the collection stands as it is. This specific had not been mentioned in the response provided to the speak-out, and the Board asked if it might be a good idea to advise patrons on this so they could better understand the bulk of the CD's being classical.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

Marc Lambert spoke about the "Day on the District" he had recently attended with Board Member Belikove and Acting Library Director Chisaki and encouraged others to take these opportunities as they present themselves.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Board President Krongold wished outgoing Recording Secretary Gaber good luck in her new retirement venture, to which the rest of the board heartily agreed. Acting Library Director Chisaki invited the Board to stop by for a farewell party the Library was hosting on the following Monday, February 13. At this time, President Krongold introduced incoming Recording Secretary Merrick who spoke briefly about her background and her previous assignments working with the City of Alameda.

Recording Secretary Merrick asked if it was appropriate to call the Board members on the day of the meeting as a reminder. This had been done in the past, but was discontinued at some point. There seemed to be renewed interest in the idea, and Board Member Mitchell asked that this practice be reinstated. Recording Secretary Merrick agreed to make calls to members on all meeting days going forward.

Board Member Schoenrock had some questions on the construction report, which were readily addressed by Acting Library Director Chisaki.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Acting Library Director Chisaki made mention of the new PSBA Newsletter and Library Hotline issues provided to each board member, which were briefly reviewed. She also announced that the City's webpage now contains the Library Board Meeting agendas.

Before the meeting broke up, Board Member Butter asked if a resolution could be made by the Board to request that City Council move forward quickly to fill the Library Director's position before the opening of the new Main Library. There was some discussion regarding this and Acting Library Director Chisaki agreed to look into this matter to see how it might be handled most effectively.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Belikove moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Board Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Chisaki
Acting Library Director and
Secretary to the Library Board